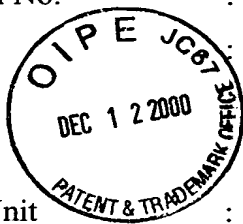


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[10191/899]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Theodor GRASER et al.
Serial No. : 09/194,773
Filed : March 31, 1999
For : METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING
A SENSING ELEMENT
Art Unit : 1731
Examiner : Christopher A. Fiorilla



BOX AF
Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

Date 12/17/2000 Atty's Reg. # 33,865

Atty's Signature

AARON C. DEDITCH

AMENDMENT AFTER A FINAL OFFICE ACTION

SIR:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed on October 10, 2000, the two-month response date for which is December 10, 2000, please amend the above-identified application as set forth below.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend, without prejudice, the claims as follows:

13. (Twice Amended) A method for manufacturing a sensing element for determining oxygen content in exhaust gases of an internal combustion engine, comprising the steps of:

C, blunting edges of a composite arrangement for use as the sensing element to increase a thermal shock resistance of the sensing element; and
sintering the [a] composite arrangement to yield the sensing element, the composite arrangement including at least one ceramic paste present in film form[]; and
blunting edges of the composite arrangement before sintering to increase a thermal shock resistance of the sensing element].

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AF/1731

[10191/899]

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Date 12/7/2000 Atty's Reg. # 33,865

Atty's Signature AARON C. DEDITCH

TRANSMITTAL

SIR:

Transmitted herewith for filing in the above-identified patent application is an Amendment After A Final Office Action.

While no fee is believed to be due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0600. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed for that purpose.

Dated: 12/7/2000

Respectfully submitted,

By: Richard L. Mayer
Richard L. Mayer
(Reg. No. 22,490)

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